



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/757,522	01/15/2004	Yuuhei Kuroho	04329.3221	4588

22852 7590 12/18/2006

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER
LLP
901 NEW YORK AVENUE, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20001-4413

EXAMINER

REGO, DOMINIC E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2618

DATE MAILED: 12/18/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/757,522

Applicant(s)

KURONO, YUUHEI

Examiner

Dominic E. Rego

Art Unit

2618

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 January 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>06/15/2006 and 01/15/2004</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The information disclosure statement filed 06/15/2006 fails to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97, 1.98 and MPEP § 609 because the abstracts of Foreign Documents JP-10-84406 and JP-8-181404 are not in English, these documents cannot be considered. It has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered as to the merits. Applicant is advised that the date of any re-submission of any item of information contained in this information disclosure statement or the submission of any missing element(s) will be the date of submission for purposes of determining compliance with the requirements based on the time of filing the statement, including all certification requirements for statements under 37 CFR 1.97(e). See MPEP § 609.05(a).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Emmert et al. (US Patent #6,600,662).

Art Unit: 2618

Regarding claim 1, Emmert teaches a portable radio communication apparatus comprising:

a main body including a first housing, a second housing and a hinge foldably coupling the first and second housings (Col 2, lines 8-10);

a first circuit board provided in the first housing (*Col 2, lines 8-12: Emmert teaches front portion 106 of the top housing comprises an ear piece 202 defined in bottom surface 203 and a lens 204 positioned in an aperture in the top housing, so a first circuit board provided in the first housing for displaying images*);

a second circuit board provided in the second housing (*Col 2, lines 44-57*);

an electric part provided in the second housing independent from the second circuit board (*Figure 3, an electric part 706 provided in the second housing independent from the second circuit board 718*); and

a connection member extending through the hinge and connected between the first and second circuit boards (*Figure 2, whenever presses a button 214, display unit 204 is displaying the output, so a connection member extending through the hinge and connected between the first and second circuit boards*) and having a branched portion connected at least one of the first and second circuit boards to the electric part (*Figure 3, a branched portion connected at least one first 790 and second circuit boards 718 to the electric part 706; Col 2, line 66-Col 3, lines 14*).

Regarding claim 2, Emmert teaches the portable radio communication apparatus, further comprising a third circuit board configured to mount the electric part thereon (*Figure 3, the portable radio communication apparatus, further comprising a*

Art Unit: 2618

third circuit board 710 configured to mount the electric part 706 thereon).

Regarding claim 3, Emmert teaches the portable radio communication apparatus, wherein the third circuit board is arranged substantially parallel to the second circuit board (*Figure 3, the portable radio communication apparatus, wherein the third circuit board 710 is arranged substantially parallel to the second circuit board 718).*

Regarding claim 4, Emmert teaches the portable radio communication apparatus, wherein the connection member includes a conductor electrically connected to the first and second circuit boards (*Figure 3, the portable radio communication apparatus, wherein the connection member includes a conductor electrically connected to the first 112 and second circuit boards 718)* and the electric part which serves as one of a power supply line, a grounded line and a signal line (*Figure 3, electric part 706 which serves as one of a power supply line 708, a grounded line and a signal line).*

Regarding claim 5, Emmert teaches the portable radio communication apparatus, wherein the electric part is mounted on the branched portion of the connection member (*Figure 3, the electric part 706 of line 708 is mounted on the branched portion of the connection member 748 of second circuit board of 718).*

Regarding claim 6, Emmert teaches a connection member for use in a portable radio communication apparatus having a first housing configured to receive a first circuit board and a second housing configured to receive a second circuit board (*Figure 2, whenever presses a button 214, display unit 204 is displaying the output, so a connection member extending through the hinge and connected between the first and second circuit boards), an electric part and a hinge configured to couple the first and*

Art Unit: 2618

second housing and foldably supporting the first and second housing (Col 2, lines 8-10), the electric part being provided in the second housing independent from the second circuit board (*Figure 3, an electric part 706 provided in the second housing independent from the second circuit board 718*), the connection member comprising:

a first connecting portion including a first conductor which electrically connects the first and second circuit boards (*Figure 3, the portable radio communication apparatus, wherein the connection member includes a conductor electrically connected to the first 112 and second circuit boards 718*); and

a second connecting portion branched from the first connecting portion and including a second conductor which electrically connects at least one of the first and second circuit boards to the electric part (*Figure 3, a branched portion connected at least one first 790 and second circuit boards 718 to the electric part 706; Col 2, line 66-Col 3, lines 14*).

Regarding claim 7, Emmert teaches the connection member, further comprising a third conductor which is electrically connected to the first and second circuit boards (*Figure 3, the portable radio communication apparatus, wherein the connection member includes a conductor electrically connected to the first 112 and second circuit boards 718*) and the electric part which serves as one of a power supply line, a grounded line or a signal line (*Figure 3, electric part 706 which serves as one of a power supply line 708, a grounded line and a signal line*).

Regarding claim 8, Emmert teaches the connection member, wherein the second connecting portion has a mount surface on which the electric part is to be

Art Unit: 2618

mounted (*Figure 3, second connecting portion 718 has a mount surface 748 on which the electric part 706 of line 708 is to be mounted*).

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Kim (US Patent Application Publication #20030096582) teaches dual-wing folder radiotelephone.

Osada Takayuki (JP Publication #2000-100506) teaches a connector, capable of easy assembling, having a small body so as to be housed in a hinge part of a small apparatus such as a portable telephone set, and capable of electrically connecting its metal fittings of contact and a circuit board with ease and high reliability.

Roussy Pascal et al. (JP Publication #2001-319713) teaches connector and mobile communication device designed to house printed circuit board.

Okuda Tatsumi (JP Publication #2002-124779) teaches portable electronic equipment in which a flexible circuit board housed in a hinge unit can be fixed by a simple method and into which no water enters through the hinge unit.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dominic E. Rego whose telephone number is 571-272-8132. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:30 am-5 pm.

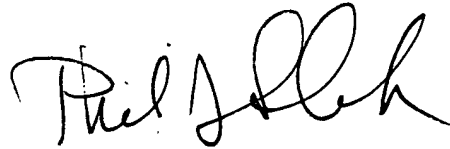
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nay Maung can be reached on 571-272-7882. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2618

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Dominic E. Rego



PHILIP J. SOBUTKA
PATENT EXAMINER